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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 EUR-25 EA-11 SS-20 ISO-00 EB-12 TRSE-00

FRB-03 OMB-01 TAR-02 SP-03 SWF-02 AGR-20 AID-05

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RSC-01 SIL-01 STR-08 CIEP-03 CEA-02 NSC-07 H-03 PA-04

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4519

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

USMISSION OECD PARIS

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL LONDON 13014

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: EGEN, UNCTAD, UK

SUBJECT: CHARTER OF ECONOMIC RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF STATES

REF: STATE 215547

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED CONTENTS REFTEL OCTOBER 3 WITH WENBAN-SMITH, HEAD ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL SECTION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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FCO'S UN DEPARTMENT. HMG IN GENERAL ACCORD WITH US

POSITION BUT MAY BE RESTRAINED FROM VOTING NO ON CHARTER IF COMMUNITY PARTNERS FIND ROOM FOR COMPROMISE. ANY GOVERNMENT CHANGES FOLLOWING OCTOBER 10 ELECTION UNLIKELY TO INFLUENCE UK POSITION

- 2. HMG AGREES STRONGLY WITH US POSITION ON PRODUCERS ASSOCIATIONS, INDEXATION AND RESTITUTION FOR RAVAGES COLONIALISM, OCCUPATION AND APARTHEID. FCO INTENDS TAKE TOUGH STAND ON THESE ISSUES EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE ELEMENTS WITHIN PRESENT GOVERNMENT DISPOSED TOWARD MORE FORTHCOMING POSITION ON COLONIALISM ISSUE.
- 3. HMG SLIGHTLY LESS INSISTENT THAN REST OF COMMUNITY ON NEED FOR INCLUSION PROVISION COVERING SECURITY OF SUPPLY OF RAW MATERIALS. FCO DOES NOT SEE THIS DEVELOPING INTO MAJOR PROBLEM.
- 4. FINAL DECISION ON UK VOTE WILL NOT BE TAKEN UNTIL RESULTS OF OCTOBER 2 EC MEMBERS' CAUCUS IN BRUSSELS HAVE BEEN ANALYZED. FCO'S FIRST POSITION WAS TO VOTE NO ON SPECIFIC ARTICLES AND ABSTAIN ON CHARTER. FCO'S LEGAL ADVISORS HAVE, HOWEVER, STRONGLY RECOMMENDED A "NO" VOTE ON CHARTER CITING CONCERNS SIMILAR TO THOSE DISCUSSED PARA 3D REFTEL. THIS VIEW WAS INCLUDED IN DELEGATES BRIEF FOR OCTOBER 2 EEC CAUCUS. CONFLICT WITHIN FCO REFLECTS CONCERN THAT UNNECESSARILY STRONG LINE BY GROUP B MEMBERS ON CHARTER MAY BE SEEN BY GROUP OF 77 AND ARABS IN PARTICULAR AS FURTHER EXAMPLE US INSTIGATED DC-LDC CONFRONTATION. STRENUOUS EFFORTS MAY BE NEEDED TO AVOID GIVING THIS IMPRESSION AS THREAT OF ARAB RETALIATION WOULD SEE HARD PRESSED OIL IMPORTERS CAVE IN ON CHARTER AND SIMILAR QUESTIONS.
- 5. WENBAN-SMITH WILL ADVISE EMBASSY IF THERE ARE ANY CHANGES IN HMG POSITION FOLLOWING EEC CAUCUS. HE STRESSED IMPORTANCE CLOSE CONSULTATION AMONG GROUP B MEMBERS PRIOR TO AND DURING MEETINGS BEGINNING OCTOBER 8. HE ALSO REQUESTED THAT EMBASSY PROVIDE FCO WITH USG VIEW OF CURRENT MEXICAN POSITION WHICH HE FEELS WILL BE CRUCIAL. CONFIDENTIAL

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